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Departement van
Gemeenskapsveiligheid,
Sekuriteit en Skakeling

Media Statement

08 February 2017

Response on Mpumalanga Traffic College allegations

Failure to respect existing laws of the country should not be tolerated and any person who breaks the law or incites others to do so should be harshly dealt with regardless of the political parties they belong to. This is according to Mpumalanga Department of Community Safety, Security and Liaison Pat Ngomane who was responding to several social media posts which have been attributed to EFF leader in the province, Collen Sedibe.

Ngomane condemns the peddling of incorrect information which has been allegedly made by Sedibe calling them childish and acts of cheap political point scoring at the expense of genuine concerns of the majority of the people in the province.

The MEC says he is fully aware of the challenges of unemployment that continues to plague many communities but that at no point should be exploited by people to mobilize the masses in order to achieve their own political objectives. He says such acts of desperation often promote backwardness that Sedibe's posts seem to want to achieve by encouraging law abiding citizens to shut down the Mpumalanga Traffic Training College.

Furthermore the MEC notes, "There is no such a thing as Mkhuhlu Traffic College. It is Mpumalanga Traffic Training College and it belongs to all the people of the province. Although it is built in Mkhuhlu, it is meant to train law enforcers from across the whole province including municipalities and other institutions that are authorized to have traffic officers in the country".

The MEC therefore condemns in the strongest possible terms, the mischief that Sedibe's posts are promoting. It seems to suggest that only people who are related to the MEC are part of the ongoing traffic law enforcement learnerships at the new Mpumalanga Traffic College.

Ngomane has therefore encouraged community members not to associate themselves with social media messages encouraging them to engage in unlawful activities.

"Community members are hereby requested not to entertain such requests and avoid any form of violence aimed at disrupting proceedings at government institutions. The Mpumalanga Traffic Training College has been built for all people of the province and therefore it is expected to cater for all residents in the province and others that will be seconded by other provinces.

It is therefore not true that only certain areas were considered during the selection process, all municipalities were treated equally. Road Safety cannot be centralized in one area, hence the involvement of individuals from different parts of the province. We are further calling upon all political party leaders in the province to refrain from cheap political point scoring, which often happen at the expense of the genuine concerns of the people of the province," says MEC Ngomane.

He has further condemned Sedibe's actions saying they are irresponsible because as a leader he knows the correct channels through which to raise complaints other than inciting violence. He has warned Sedibe and others who want to break the law that government will act accordingly and bring them to book.

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